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CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES

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Fifty-first year

Letter dated 31 October from the Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of the Santiago Agreement signed on 29 October 1996 in Santiago, Chile, by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Ecuador and Peru and the representatives of the Guarantor Countries of the Protocol of Rio do Janeiro (annex), by which it has been decided to begin, before the end of 1996, substantive talks on the border dispute between Ecuador and Peru and in which the procedures for the negotiations have been established.

The Agreement stipulates that the talks shall be conducted in accordance with the 1942 Protocol of Peace, Friendship and Boundaries of Rio de Janeiro, the Itamaraty Declaration of Peace of 17 February 1995 (A/51/188-S/1996/511 dated 2 July 1996), the Quito Agreement of 23 February 1996 (A/51/72-S/1996/148 dated 29 February 1996), the press release issued in Buenos Aires on 19 July 1996 (A/51/188-S/1996/511 dated 2 July 1996) and this Agreement; the purpose of the talks is to find a complete and lasting solution to the "remaining impasses" identified in the lists exchanged by the Parties in Brasilia on 6 March 1996 (A/51/77-S/1996/181 dated 11 March 1996).

I should be grateful if this letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 71 (g) and 72 (c), and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Luis Valencia RODRIGUEZ
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Ecuador
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Santiago Agreement

As a result of the talks held in Santiago on 28 and 29 October 1996, the Foreign Ministers of Ecuador and Peru have agreed as follows:

1. In a spirit of mutual understanding and friendly respect, the Governments of Ecuador and Peru shall begin substantive talks in Brasilia before the end of 1996 for the purpose of reaching a complete and lasting solution to the "remaining impasses" identified in the lists exchanged by the Parties in Brazil on 6 March 1996. The talks shall be conducted in accordance with the 1942 Protocol of Peace, Friendship and Boundaries of Rio de Janeiro, the Itamaraty Declaration of Peace of 17 February 1995, the Quito Agreement of 23 February 1996, the press release issued in Buenos Aires on 19 June 1996 and this Agreement.

2. The talks, which shall be continuous and shall last until they have been completed, shall address all the remaining impasses individually and sequentially and no vetoes shall be permitted. The Parties agree that the talks shall focus first on those impasses which they mutually agree pose the least difficulty. The understandings reached on each item, which may entail reciprocal concessions, shall be deemed definitive only after a final comprehensive agreement has been reached covering all the impasses included in the lists provided by Ecuador and Peru.

3. When discussing each impasse, the Parties shall take note of those points on which they have been able to reach agreement as well as those on which they have been unable to do so. Using this methodology, they shall examine each impasse in sequence and take note of all points of agreement and disagreement.

4. The Guarantor Countries shall appoint a monitoring committee to assist with the matters referred to in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 above. The Guarantor Countries, in keeping with the responsibility incumbent upon them by virtue of their duty to assist the Parties, shall propose the most appropriate procedures for reaching a definitive solution to those points of disagreement which the Parties have been unable to resolve directly.

Done at the Palacio de La Moneda, Santiago, on 29 October 1996.

For the Republic of Ecuador:

Galo LEORO FRANCO

Argentine Republic:

Alfredo CHIARADIA

Republic of Chile:

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For the Republic of Peru:

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